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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Ms. Donna R. Searcy, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W., Room 222
Washington, D.C. 20554

Defenses - Commerce - 2004 00 025

the use of twenty-eight radio channels.

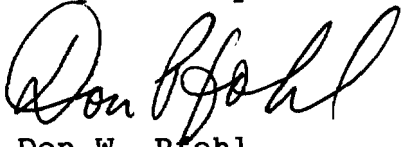
Mesa's radio communications systems are presently on
a combination of VHF and low UHF radio frequencies.

We are familiar with the comments being filed in this proceeding by Arizona's APCO Chapter, and we support them. In fact, we see a better future for Mesa's communications systems as being possible if Arizona's suggestions are adopted. For example, if Mesa can gain exclusive use of the UHF frequencies it presently uses, and if a few more similar frequencies could be added to exclusive use, Mesa could possibly trunk frequencies in the 450-470 MHz range. The result might be a system which could even use only a single transmitter site. Such a system could cost a great deal less and be much less complex than an equivalent 800 MHz system would.

Mesa knows that the future must hold change. The radio community cannot continue business as usual, because growth will not allow it. There is little or no room for expansion in present frequency use. Arizona is not in the dire straits Los Angeles and many other large urban areas are in, but we cannot get more frequencies in the Phoenix and Tucson areas either. We think the ten year time table Arizona proposes is reasonable, and we fully support a new public safety national and regional planning process. At least within Public Safety we urge the Commission to not simply split channels and then allow new frequencies to be added in conventional ways to conventional systems. There will never be a good time for making radical changes, but it seems to us that radical changes are the only real answer for the future.

The City of Mesa appreciates this opportunity to
comment in this important proceeding.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Don Prohl". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Don" and last name "Prohl" clearly distinguishable.

Don W. Prohl
Communications Director

DP/sr
mesacom.wp5